

# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet Guam 2020



# **Investment in State's Cooperative Programs**

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$226,668
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$0
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$0
State Fire Assistance	\$150,000
Urban and Community Forestry	\$40,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$0
Total	\$416,668

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Six priority issues were identified in Guam's Forest action plan: 1. Wildfire and public safety 2. Water quality and water supply 3. Population growth and urbanization 4. Deforestation of native species 5. Urban forest sustainability 6. Degraded lands These six key issues remain our top priority in our effort to protect and enhance our natural resources. Seeking partnerships with NGO's and other Government agencies to leverage local resources will aid us in addressing these priority areas.

# **Program Goals**

- 1. Implement highest priority planting meeting multiple objectives
  - 2. Protect, conserve and restore forest on state, private and other non military lands
  - 3. Work with military to avoid deforestation and develop tree ordinace laws for new and old development zones
  - 4. Improve fire prevention, control, suppression and prescribed fire activities
  - 5. Implement tree planting and monitoring projects in developed areas, open spaces and parks and communities
  - 6. Implement a forest health program.

# **Key Issues**

- 1. Wildfire and public safety
  - 2. Water quality and water supply
  - 3. Population growth and urbanization
  - 4. Deforestation of native species
  - 5. Urban forest sustainability
  - 6. Degraded lands.

# **Forest Facts and Accomplishments**

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	154,805	Landowners Receiving Educational or	43
Acres of Forest Land	69,851	Technical Assistance	
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	28,771	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	0
Number of NIPF Landowners	30,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas	0
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	J
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire	81,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	0
Protection		State Fire Communities Assisted	22
Number of Rural Fire Departments	12	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Cities and Towns	19	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Forest Based Employment	0	Communities Provided Urban Forestry	24
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	0	Program Assistance	24
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	1,150,318	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	103,370
		Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	4,336

# **Program Highlights**

### Cooperative Fire Protection

There were 396 wildfires that burned approximately 9,421-acres comprising of private. Government and Federal lands (6.9% total area burned island-wide). A 2% increase from the previous year. Forestry personnel cut firebreaks within COTAL Conservation Area which is approximately 7.374 linear feet at 25 ft. widths. Firebreaks were also cut at Masso Reservoir and the Manell Watershed (Quinene Plantation). For Smokey Bear's 75th birthday, the Smokey Bear Outreach Mobile was launched. Wildfire outreach and education delving into topics covering mitigation, prevention and Smokey Bear presentations reached approximately 6,141 community members island-wide. Volunteers received interactive presentations and those who attended the 75th Liberation Day Parade festivities were introduced to the Smokey Bear Outreach Mobile and the storyboard it provided, enhancing Guam Forestry's place-based wildland fire education messaging. Smokey Bear's 75th Birthday was celebrated year round on Guam with presentations, photo and video sightings of Smokey Bear at various scenic sights on island and within Forestry managed sites. Smokey Bear's birthday celebrations took place at the Agana Shopping Center where 17 fire and natural resource partners were staged to represent our community from our ridges to our reef. This was the first time partners from emergency services were staged with natural resource partners in this manner presenting to attendees that everything is connected. Fires on the ridge, is smoke in the village, debris in the rivers and sediment in the bays. •A wildfire was shut down with strategically placed water tanks acquired via the FFP. The staging of the tanks was permitted with the residents of the Mt. Tenjo Homeowners Community Association and shows success when community, partnerships and programs work together. •Forestry staff attend the International Fire Behavior & Fuels Conference in Sydney, Australia.

#### Forest Health Protection

Guam Forestry participated in the 2019 Assembly of Planners at the Pacific Star Hotel with a static display showing Forestry's programs. Native saplings given to attendees to encourage them to plant native trees.• Guam Forestry staff attend and complete certification for CPR/AED & Basic First Aid training course provided by the Guam Fire Department. •Staff attend University of Guam's Charter Day. This event celebrates the university's birthday. Guam Forestry provided a static display with interactive games such as tree identification, puzzle nut race as well as handouts regarding Forestry's programs.•Guam Forestry, in partnership with the Bureau of Statistics & Plans, held a Landowner Workshop at the community center in the village of Inarajan. Participants were introduced mainly to the FSP program, however the FH and FIRE programs were also briefly presented to show how each program supports each other. 20 participants were in attendance.•Participated in Earth Month Kick of Event organized by the Guam Nature Alliance.•Forest Health funds paid for the travel fare to Hawaii of 4

Forestry staff and the Director of Agriculture to attend Arborist Training and for the Pacific Island Forestry Committee workshop.•Attended the Regional Invasive Species Council (RISC) workshop.•Forestry participates in the May Harvest Festival held by the Agricultural Development Services division. The festival showcases partners of the department whose goal is to help the farmers of Guam.•Forestry Aide Paul Cabana completed a 5-month training program in Forest Inventory & Analysis with the USFS in Alaska.•The 2 acre COTAL fenced area was maintained. The fence was inspected for any breaks or signs of ungulates making their way inside. Crews cut grass inside and outside the fence line and blew leaf litter off the netting of the Serienthes cages. Crews also performed tree stand improvement within the fenced area on trees that were damaged from recent storms.

## Forest Stewardship

With the help of partners, a landowner workshop was held in the village of Inarajan. Out of 25 attendees 8 were interested to enroll in the FSP. Feedback from attendees was very positive and have received requests to host similar workshops at other villages around the island. Visited 16 cooperators to monitor progress and take sapling orders. • For Forestry's Annual "Trick or Trees" planting event, staff and 167 volunteers planted 1,000 native species at the Quinene Road plantation located in the Manell watershed Presented to 80 students at Harry S. Truman Elementary School. Students were taught about the importance of planting trees, soil erosion, and protecting the environment. Participated in the 2018 Year of the Reef exhibit opening at the Guam Museum. We had an interactive poster and answered questions on FSP and LSR projects in the Manell watershed. FSP hosted a TELE workshop that was attended by 26 participants from multiple local and federal agencies. At this workshop attendees learned how to effectively communicate with potential cooperators and landowners. Participated in the 2019 Assembly of Planners. Provided 156 native trees to attendees as incentive for promoting the FSP program. Provided 44 native saplings to the GAIN (Guam Animals In Need) shelter. The trees will provide erosion control for targeted areas as well as shade and comfort for the animals and staff. Drafted 7 new management plans for private landowners. 150 volunteers planted 250 assorted natives in COTAL conservation as part of a post fire response. Coordinated with CFPP manager to establish firebreaks at COTAL and Masso conservation areas. Four Forestry staff attend the Tree Nursery Workshop at the University of Guam. J.B. Friday and Diane Haase were the primary presenters. - •Through the efforts of our great staff and partners the number of volunteers for FSP/LSR plantings have steadily increased. This shows a positive trend towards awareness of natural resource conservation.

## Landscape Scale Restoration

Partners from the Bureau of Statistics & Plans and NOAA held 4 outreach workshops reaching 150 high school students and 90 AmeriCorps members. Presentations informed participants on "Ridge to Reef" concept, aspects of Forestry's reforestation projects, and proper planting methods. Five planting events were held which treated 40 Acres of the Manell Watershed. Prior to each planting, site preparation was done by Guam Forestry staff to create contour rows for which Acacia/Native trees were planted. Volunteers were instructed on proper planting technique and safety guidelines. A total of 12,450 trees (11,750 Acacia/700 native) were planted by 677 volunteers which comprised of students, AmeriCorps members, military personnel, and community residents. Guam Forestry staff established a firebreak along the entire east side of the planting site measuring 2200 linear feet x 20 feet wide. Agency partner BSP (Bureau of Statistics & Plans) contributed by using their own funds to hire a contractor that established firebreaks on the western side. During this period at least 9 landowners have been approached and are interested and willing to sign up for the FSP program. Of these 9, two of the properties border the plantation site. One landowner is also nearby which will be the site for bamboo removal. Community involvement comes in the form of volunteer workers. During this period, an average of 12 community residents were paid stipends to assist Forestry staff. They were instructed on site preparation and maintenance practices. Through this work they gain a sense of ownership of the project site. They in turn convey the important work they are doing to their family and friends, serving as outreach speakers for their village. Many enjoy the work and have expressed interest in employment with Guam Forestry.

## **Urban and Community Forestry**

Met with Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) Administrators to continue with 2018 tree plantings at 2 parks throughout the island. The 2 park areas selected for the 2018 plantings were the Dededo Skate Park and Statue of Liberty Park.•Coordinated with the Guam Museum for plantings to incorporate native species within the museum's landscape.•Met with DPR Administrators to continue with 2019 tree plantings at 3 parks which were the Guam Sports Complex, Liguan Park, and Inarajan Pools Park.•During this period, there were 5 tree planting events. Planted 3 native trees at the Guam Girl Scout headquarters

with 35 girls and 2 instructors. Planted at the newly upgraded GWA water treatment facility where 22 native trees were planted with 8 staff from GWA. Guam Arbor Day 2019 was held at the Guam Sports Complex, Dededo. In attendance were the Lt. Governor and the Mayor of Dededo where a resolution was signed to commemorate Guam's Arbor Day 2019. About 120 students from J. M Guerrero Elementary School attended as volunteers to plant trees. Various partners set up static displays. A total of 25 native trees were planted at the Guam Sports Complex. A tree planting event was held at Liguan park with 20 volunteers from AmeriCorps where 11 native trees were planted. Another 20 native trees were planted at the Inarajan Pools park with 18 volunteers. Forestry staff maintained all U&CF planting sites throughout the island during this period. Herbicide application, arbor guard replacements when necessary, fertilizer application and selective pruning for proper structure was done. \*15 tree-cutting permits were requested during this period. 4 Forestry Staff attended the Arborist Certification and Testing in Hawaii. 5 Forestry Staff attended the PIFC in Hawaii Forestry Staff along with Department of Public Work pruned all the trees along Marine Corps Drive in preparation for the Annual Liberation Day Parade. Eight dead coconut trees due to CRB damage were also removed.

## **Contact Information**



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